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Proceedings of the Second Conference on the Biology of  
Normal and Atypical Pigment Cell Growth.

## FOREWORD.

The second conference on the Biology of Normal and Atypical Pigment Cell Growth was called in direct response to the requests of a group of biologists, biochemists, biophysicists and medical research workers who wanted another opportunity for an exchange of ideas between specialists in different fields. They wanted to learn firsthand the results of recent experiments and observations.

The second conference was held at the New York Zoological Park on November 18-19, 1949.

The publication of "The Biology of Melanomas" by the New York Academy of Sciences, which sponsored the first conference in 1946, established Pigment Cell Growth as a united topic and brought its subject matter into focus and prominence. The many new contributors to the second conference testify to the growth of interest in the nature and behavior of the pigment cells. Among these contributors are some whose researches in the field go back a quarter of a century. The pool of information has been greatly enriched and the present publication will make it accessible to an ever-widening group of investigators.

The abstracts published here differ somewhat from those originally submitted for distribution prior to the conference. They

have been expanded and contain references to the most recent papers dealing with pigment cell growth and related topics. This report also includes discussions and the introductory remarks made by the chairmen of the four sessions of the conference.

The next conference will be organized in response to the future needs of investigators in the broad field of pigment cell growth. Suggestions and inquiries will be welcomed at all times by the organizing chairman.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

The conference is indebted to Dr. George M. Smith of the Yale University School of Medicine for his continuing interest in these meetings. As Medical Advisor to the Anna Fuller Fund, he recommended that a grant be made to the New York Zoological Society to defray part of the costs of arranging and conducting the conference. In this connection, the organizing chairman wishes to acknowledge the many valuable suggestions made by Dr. Smith that were put in action before and during the meeting. The thanks of the conference are also due to the New York Zoological Society for a grant in aid of publication of these abstracts.—MYRON GORDON, *Genetics Laboratory of the New York Zoological Society, the American Museum of Natural History, New York 24, N. Y.*

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